

**AGENDA FOR  
CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING  
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2003  
Immediately Following Director's Meeting  
CONFERENCE ROOM 113**

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for March 17, 2003.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Proposed Solid Waste Occupation Tax & Reduction of Landfill Tipping Fee - March 3, 2003.

**II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES**

1. Floodplain Task Force Meeting (Seng)
2. Homeless Coalition Meeting (Werner)

**OTHER MEETINGS REPORTS:**

**III. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS - NONE**

**IV. REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR - NONE**

**V. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS**

1. Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. - The Middle Western Providence of KAY Cordially Invites You To Attend: A Welcome Reception at The Holiday Inn Downtown, 141 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street on Thursday, March 27, 2003 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (See Invitation)
2. Nebraska Restaurant Association presents Taste Of Nebraska "Celebrate The Taste" on Monday, May 5, 2003 at The Cornhusker Hotel - 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Governor's Reception - 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Dinner, Awards & Entertainment - RSVP by Friday, April 18, 2003 - any questions, please call Brandi Noble at 475-1900 - (Your complimentary Ticket (s) will be sent to you in April). (See Invitation)
3. 2003 Downtown Technology Fair Kick-Off Luncheon - on Thursday, April 24, 2003 - UNL Student Union, Centennial Ballroom, 14<sup>th</sup> & R Streets - Doors open at 11:30 a.m. - \$30.00 per person - RSVP by April 15<sup>th</sup> - (See Invitation)

4. Invitation - Profiting From Effective Use of the Web as a Nonprofit Organization - on Tuesday, March 25, 2003 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Lancaster County Extension Office, 444 Cherry Creek Road - Fee, \$20.00 Members of Human Services Federation or Leadership Lincoln - \$30.00 Non-members – RSVP to Jean Dier @ 441-4661. (See Invitation)
5. The Lied Center for Performing Arts presents - The E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues - The War Against Hussein: Necessary, Just and Winnable - Clifford D. May and Qubad Talabany on Thursday, March 27, 2003 at 3:30 p.m. - At the Lied Center for Performing Arts, 301 N. 12<sup>th</sup> Street - Free Admission (See Invitation)

**VI. MISCELLANEOUS - NONE**

**VII. CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS' "NOON" MEETING**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2003**  
*CONFERENCE ROOM 113*

**Council Members Present:** Jonathan Cook, Chair; Jon Camp, Vice Chair; Glenn Friendt; Annette McRoy (arrived at end of meeting); Coleen Seng; Ken Svoboda; Terry Werner.

**Others Present:** Mark Bowen (arrived late), Corrie Kielty (arrived late), Mayor's Office; Dana Roper, City Attorney (arrived late); Joan Ray, Council Secretary; Darrell Podany, Aide to Council Members Camp, Friendt and Svoboda (arrived late)

**I. MINUTES**

1. Minutes of "Noon" Council Members' Meeting for March 17, 2003.
2. Pre-Council Meeting Minutes - RE: Proposed Solid Waste Occupation Tax & Reduction of Landfill Tipping Fee - March 3, 2003.

Chair Jonathan Cook requested a motion to approve the above-listed minutes. Ken Svoboda moved approval of the minutes, as presented. The motion was seconded by Coleen Seng and the minutes were approved as presented by unanimous consensus of those Council members present.

**II. COUNCIL REPORTS ON BOARDS, COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND CONFERENCES -**

1. FLOOD PLAIN TASK FORCE (Seng) Ms. Seng reported that tomorrow morning may be the last meeting for the Task Force. They have struggled to bring something forward that can be sent on to the Planning Commission for public consideration. The report contains a fairly lengthy table of contents because there are so many definitions that have to be included. The "Built" and "New" environments are being considered separately. Ms. Seng noted that putting something into an area that is already built is a much more complex issue on which to base recommendations than the "new" build areas. The Task Force has had an enormous amount of information to take into consideration.

Mr. Werner asked if there were any public presentations being undertaken on this issue. Ms. Seng answered that they weren't doing any public input now - at this stage. The Task Force has to get the recommendations together so they can be sent on to the Planning Commission where the public discourse would be undertaken. Mr. Cook felt it might be a good idea to have an open house for a public informational meeting. Ms. Seng answered that the issues are so complicated, it would be difficult to make a public presentation at this point.

2. HOMELESS COALITION (Werner) Mr. Werner stated that he would report on this meeting next week under his DLA report. [This meeting will not be listed on next week's agenda]

OTHER MEETINGS - Ms. Seng stated that she would like to report on a meeting she had attended on Friday morning concerning the Community Learning Centers. There are now 15 Community Learning Centers in Lincoln. An upcoming CLC meeting will present a fair amount of information. That meeting is scheduled for next week with some great speakers being brought in. There will be a reception.

Mr. Cook asked if he had heard correctly that the Federal government may be cutting funds for this project? Ms. Seng answered that that was correct. She noted that some people are contacting Washington on this.

Mr. Werner reported that he had attended the LAP Board Meeting, noting that in a rare occurrence, the Council meeting hadn't extended into the LAP meeting time. One of their primary concerns is the Head Start Program. Of their \$10,000,000 budget, about half comes from Head Start and the programs LAP administers for Head Start. Under the "No Child Left Behind" policy, there is some thought of moving that program to State administration. The LAP Board is concerned that at the State level, those funds get mixed and are gone. The transfer of the program to State administration would also add another level of bureaucracy for LAP. They are, therefore, opposing that transfer of administration. Mr. Werner felt each State should have the ability to make their own choice on whether or not they want to accept that responsibility. Of course, everyone is concerned about funding.

III. **APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS** - Ms. Kielty reported that there had been a resignation from the Mayor's Multicultural Advisory Committee and she requested names of nominees from Council Members if they had someone they thought would be interested in serving. Mr. Werner indicated that he had someone whose name he would like to submit.

IV. **REQUESTS OF COUNCIL FROM MAYOR** - Mr. Bowen reported that Don Herz had gone before the State Legislature during the public hearing on MERC. Mr. Herz testified how important MERC was to the City of Lincoln and to other communities. We've bonded against that money ["F" Street Rec Center project] and the Legislature, on two occasions, told us we could bond against that money. Mr. Bowen felt the testimony had gone well, but there is still a [negative] potential out there. He suggested that Council members talk to the State Senators to encourage them *not* to rescind, because it would affect Lincoln's bond rating. We've bonded against it based on proven confirmation from the legislature indicating that we could do that.

V. **MEETINGS/INVITATIONS** - Noted Without Significant Comment

VI. **MISCELLANEOUS** -

1. Mr. Cook had a draft copy of a resolution supporting funding for the University of Nebraska because he felt that it is critically important for our local economy to do so. These cuts are too severe. The Chamber of Commerce, and DLA wrote letters and it is Mr. Cook's understanding that nearly forty groups have passed resolutions of support for UN-L funding. Mr. Cook opened the floor for discussion on the presentation and passage of such a resolution by the Lincoln City Council. Concerns regarding the Council's legislative

jurisdiction being over-stepped by such a resolution were brought forward and it was noted, this might be viewed as a 'political' resolution. Mr. Cook commented that this isn't really any more than a strong suggestion that the Legislature consider the funding priorities carefully and that this is a very important issue to the City of Lincoln. It was noted that this would be City business in that the City works in close partnership with the University on economic development issues and these funding cuts will severely impact the University's ability to help the City of Lincoln. It was also noted that the cuts will be affecting a higher income stratum than the jobs lost at Goodyear and Cushman and would, therefore, have a greater impact on Lincoln's economy through loss of sales tax receipts. Coupled with the Goodyear and Cushman losses, this could have a devastating effect on the City's sales tax revenues.

Mr. Svoboda felt that some mention of the education of our young people might be included in the resolution to, perhaps, make it seem less self-serving. It was explained that the economic tact had been employed because that would be the "business" of the City and, therefore, be an issue that could be appropriately addressed by the Council. Everyone agreed that support of the Resolution as submitted would be a positive step. It was determined to put the proposed resolution, with any additions Council members might submit, on the Council Agenda as soon as was possible through the proper procedural process.

Mr. Svoboda, in a related matter, noted an article in the Omaha *World Herald* about the required hours that the instructors put in at the University level. It used to be that they were required to have the responsibility of four courses, but now most are required to have only two, unless they are research funded. The article suggested that there would not have to be so many instructors and the amount of credit hour tuition could be increased if the structure that called for teachers to teach four courses per semester were re-instated. Mr. Svoboda thought the article was interesting and it shed a lot of light on the difficulties and problems that the University is having right now. He wondered if that is not being internally addressed, or is being over-looked, because 'they are the University'. Mr. Svoboda indicated that he had forwarded the article to the Board of Regents.

Mr. Friendt indicated that the article had been written by a retired professor who was recounting the teaching load and how it has changed so tremendously over time. He observed that the City and the University are linked and we do have a self-interest in this resolution. This is where the University campus is located. He felt the resolution made a lot of sense from an economic development standpoint. The issue of how the University is managing itself is a broader issue.

Mr. Cook brought forward for discussion the reconsideration of the annexation agreement [Item 26 (03R-25) on the Council Agenda for this date]. This issue was discussed at some length. Concerns included the often stated impact fee arguments on this project; the cost to the City if the impact fees were lost and that amount was not somehow structured into the agreement; the setting of precedent; the possibility of litigation and the loss of a \$30,000,000 project because of a failure to reach a consensus. The final decision from that discussion was to reconsider the agreement at today's Formal Meeting, since it is on the agenda today and this could be done without circumventing the advertising requirements. It was determined that Council could decide what to do at the time the issue was brought forward at the Formal Meeting today.

## VII. COUNCIL MEMBERS -

**JON CAMP** - Mr. Camp asked about the North 69th-70th Street alley paving issue [03-43/03-44] on the Formal Agenda today. He asked Ms. Seng if she had any guidance on the issue? Ms. Seng noted that the constituent who had requested the paving thought it wasn't going to be as expensive as he thinks it might be now, so he is having second thoughts. Some neighbors want it, others don't. Now the applicant says he can go & get rock somewhere much cheaper than the paving would be. Ms. Seng had no guidance to give to other Council Members.

**JONATHAN COOK** - No Further Comments

**GLENN FRIENDT** - No Further Comments

**ANNETTE McROY** - Ms. McRoy (who had just arrived at the meeting) explained to the Council that she had just come from an inspection of the Indian Center this morning at 10:30 a.m. on behalf of the Joint Budget Committee and the United Way. Mr. Cook stated that her absence could be excused then, since she had been conducting City business. [Laughter]

Ms. McRoy reported that the inspection had revealed both good and bad points. The Center had made up some of the required files...but not all that are needed. JBC requested that an amendment be written to the contract to cover the fourth quarter, which starts April 1<sup>st</sup>. They had the Board President there and the United Way Chair was there, too. We will probably recommend denial for third quarter payments, but probable approval of payments for the fourth quarter when all is in order. She commented that she would have a full report for Council at a later date.

**COLEEN SENG** - Ms. Seng commented that she had heard from a constituent in Havelock regarding a group of youth coming in from Omaha to sell door-to-door in his neighborhood. Ms. Seng noted that, though he had not stated it, his comments implied that one of the issues he had was the fact that the group had been made up of African-American youth. He felt there should be more stringent checks before solicitation permits were issued from Lincoln's City Clerk's Office. Ms. Seng confirmed that a few years ago the City had tried to tighten up the solicitation permit requirements for the non-profit groups [wanting to sell in residential neighborhoods.] Ms. Seng believed this group had appropriately acquired the necessary permits, but requested that the Mayor's Office check into this particular incident.

**KEN SVOBODA** - Mr. Svoboda asked about the Council appointing another representative to the Flood Plan Task Force, since Ms. Seng would no longer be serving on the Council after May 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Seng noted that tomorrow's meeting would probably be the last one for the Task Force, so there would be no need to appoint another Council representative.

**TERRY WERNER** - No Further Comments

**MARK BOWEN** - No Further Comments

**CORRIE KIELTY** - No Further Comments

**DANA ROPER** - No Further Comments

VIII. MEETING ADJOURNED - Approximately 12:30 p.m.

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